

What is claimed is:

1. A recording/reproduction apparatus comprising:

a first information recording means for recording proper information to be recorded including information on the time and date of recording on a first recording medium from the recording starting point of said first recording medium in the order of time and date of recording;

a recording capacity determining means for judging if said first recording medium has a remaining recording capacity sufficient for recording said information to be recorded;

an oldest information detecting means for detecting one or more than one pieces of information having the oldest time and date of recording out of the plurality of pieces of information recorded on said first recording medium;

a recording control means for controlling the operation of recording information not recorded on said first recording medium in the recording area of said first recording medium storing said one or more than one pieces of information having the oldest time and date of recording as detected by said oldest information detecting means if the information not recorded on said first recording medium is supplied and said recording capacity determining means judges that said recording medium does not have said remaining recording capacity.

2. A recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 1, further

comprising:

an erasure prohibiting means for specifying predetermined one or more than one pieces of information recorded by said first information recording means on said first recording medium for prohibition of erasure;

said recording control means being adapted to so control said first information recording means as to cause it to record the information not recorded on said first recording medium in the recording area on said first recording medium storing one or more than one pieces of recorded information having the oldest time and date of recording except said predetermined one or more than one pieces of recorded information specified by said erasure prohibiting means.

3. A recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a time and date of recording changing means for changing the information on the time and date of recording accompanying said predetermined one or more than one pieces of information recorded by said information recording means on said first recording medium.

4. A recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising:

a second information recording means for recording information on a second recording medium; and

a specification cancelling means for cancelling the specification of said predetermined one or more than one pieces of recorded information for prohibition of erasure as specified by said erasure prohibiting means;

said recording control means being adapted as to so control said first information recording means, when a piece of information not recorded on said first recording medium is supplied and it is determined by said recording capacity determining means that said first recording medium does not have a remaining recording capacity sufficient for recording said information to be recorded, to cause said first information recording means to reproduce the one or more than one pieces of information stored on said recording medium with the oldest time and date of recording as detected by said oldest information detecting means out of the recording area of said first recording medium to be used for recording said information not recorded on said first recording medium and record the reproduced information on said second recording medium;

said specification cancelling means being adapted to cancel the prohibition of erasure of said predetermined one or more than one pieces of recorded information as specified by said erasure prohibiting means after the completion of recording said information reproduced by said second information recording means on said second recording medium.

5. A recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 3, further

comprising:

a second information recording means for recording information on a second recording medium;

an erasure prohibiting means for specifying predetermined one or more than one pieces of information recorded by said first information recording means on said first recording medium for prohibition of erasure; and

a specification cancelling means for cancelling the specification of said predetermined one or more than one pieces of recorded information for prohibition of erasure as specified by said erasure prohibiting means;

    said recording control means being adapted as to so control said first information recording means, when a piece of information not recorded on said first recording medium is supplied and it is determined by said recording capacity determining means that said first recording medium does not have a remaining recording capacity sufficient for recording said information to be recorded, to cause said first information recording means to reproduce the one or more than one pieces of information stored on said recording medium with the oldest time and date of recording as detected by said oldest information detecting means out of the recording area of said first recording medium to be used for recording said information not recorded on said first recording medium, use the information on the time and date of recording the information as reproduced by said time and date of recording changing means as the most

recent information and record said reproduced information on said second recording medium;

    said specification cancelling means being adapted to cancel the prohibition of erasure of said predetermined one or more than one pieces of recorded information as specified by said erasure prohibiting means after the completion of recording said information reproduced by said second information recording means on said second recording medium.

6. A recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising:

    a second information recording means for recording information on a second recording medium;

    an erasure prohibiting means for specifying predetermined one or more than one pieces of information recorded by said first information recording means on said first recording medium for prohibition of erasure; and

    a specification cancelling means for cancelling the specification of said predetermined one or more than one pieces of recorded information for prohibition of erasure as specified by said erasure prohibiting means;

    said recording control means being adapted as to so control said first information recording means, when a piece of information not recorded on said first recording medium is supplied and it is determined by said recording capacity determining means that said first recording medium does not have a

remaining recording capacity sufficient for recording said information to be recorded, to cause said first information recording means to reproduce the one or more than one pieces of information stored on said recording medium with the oldest time and date of recording as detected by said oldest information detecting means out of the recording area of said first recording medium to be used for recording said information not recorded on said first recording medium, use the information on the time and date of recording the information as reproduced by said time and date of recording changing means as the most recent information and record said reproduced information on said second recording medium;

    said specification cancelling means being adapted to cancel the prohibition of erasure of said predetermined one or more than one pieces of recorded information as specified by said erasure prohibiting means after the completion of recording said information reproduced by said second information recording means on said second recording medium.

7. A recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 3, further comprising:

    a second information recording means for recording information on a second recording medium;

    an erasure prohibiting means for specifying predetermined one or more than one pieces of information recorded by said first information recording

means on said first recording medium for prohibition of erasure; and  
a specification cancelling means for cancelling the specification of said  
predetermined one or more than one pieces of recorded information for  
prohibition of erasure as specified by said erasure prohibiting means;

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said recording control means being adapted as to so control said first  
information recording means, when a piece of information not recorded on said  
first recording medium is supplied and it is determined by said recording  
capacity determining means that said first recording medium does not have a  
remaining recording capacity sufficient for recording said information to be  
recorded, to cause said first information recording means to reproduce said  
predetermined one or more than one pieces of information specified by said  
erasure prohibiting means and stored on said recording medium out of the  
recording area of said first recording medium to be used for recording said  
information not recorded on said first recording medium, use the information  
on the time and date of recording the information as reproduced by said time  
and date of recording changing means as the most recent information and  
record said reproduced information on said second recording medium;

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said specification cancelling means being adapted to cancel the  
prohibition of erasure of said predetermined one or more than one pieces of  
recorded information as specified by said erasure prohibiting means after the  
completion of recording said information reproduced by said second

information recording means on said second recording medium.

8. A recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 4, further comprising:

a second recording capacity determining means for judging if said second recording medium has a remaining recording capacity sufficient for recording said information to be recorded; and

a second oldest information detecting means for detecting one or more than one pieces of information having the oldest time and date of recording out of the plurality of pieces of information recorded on said second recording medium;

said second information recording means being adapted to record said information to be recorded as accompanied by the information on the time and date of recording on said second recording medium in the order of scheduled time and date of recording from the starting point for recording on said second recording medium;

said recording control means being adapted as to so control said second information recording means, when a piece of information not recorded on said second recording medium is supplied and it is determined by said second recording capacity determining means that said second recording medium does not have a remaining recording capacity sufficient for recording said information to be recorded, to cause said second information recording means

to record said information not recorded on said second recording medium in the recording area on said second recording medium storing said one or more than one pieces of information having the oldest time and date of recording as detected by said second oldest information detecting means;

9. A recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 6, further comprising:

a second recording capacity determining means for judging if said second recording medium has a remaining recording capacity sufficient for recording said information to be recorded; and

a second oldest information detecting means for detecting one or more than one pieces of information having the oldest time and date of recording out of the plurality of pieces of information recorded on said second recording medium;

said second information recording means being adapted to record said information to be recorded as accompanied by the information on the time and date of recording on said second recording medium in the order of scheduled time and date of recording from the starting point for recording on said second recording medium;

said recording control means being adapted as to so control said second information recording means, when a piece of information not recorded on said second recording medium is supplied and it is determined by said second

recording capacity determining means that said second recording medium does not have a remaining recording capacity sufficient for recording said information to be recorded, to cause said second information recording means to record said information not recorded on said second recording medium in the recording area on said second recording medium storing said one or more than one pieces of information having the oldest time and date of recording as detected by said second oldest information detecting means;

10. A recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the time and date when the reproduced information is recorded by said second information recording means on said second recording medium is treated as if the time and date when said information is recorded by said first information recording means on said first recording medium.

11. A recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the time and date when the reproduced information is recorded by said second information recording means on said second recording medium is treated as if the time and date when said information is recorded by said first information recording means on said first recording medium.

12. A recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a display section for displaying the one or more than one pieces of recorded information with the oldest time and date of recording as detected by

said oldest information detecting means except said one or more than one pieces of recorded information specified by said erasure prohibiting means.

13. A recording/reproduction method comprising:

a first information recording step of recording proper information to be recorded including information on the time and date of recording on a first recording medium from the recording starting point of said first recording medium in the order of time and date of recording;

a recording capacity determining step of judging if said first recording medium has a remaining recording capacity sufficient for recording said information to be recorded;

an oldest information detecting step of detecting one or more than one pieces of information having the oldest time and date of recording out of the plurality of pieces of information recorded on said first recording medium; and

a recording updating step of recording information not recorded on said first recording medium in the recording area of said first recording medium storing said one or more than one pieces of information having the oldest time and date of recording as detected in said oldest information detecting step if the information not recorded on said first recording medium is supplied and it is judged in said recording capacity determining step that said recording medium does not have said remaining recording capacity.

14. A recording/reproduction method according to claim 13, further

comprising:

an erasure prohibiting step of specifying predetermined one or more than one pieces of information recorded on said first recording medium in said first information recording step for prohibition of erasure;

the information not recorded on said first recording medium being recorded in the recording area on said first recording medium storing one or more than one pieces of recorded information having the oldest time and date of recording except said predetermined one or more than one pieces of recorded information specified by said erasure prohibiting means in said recording updating step.

15. A recording/reproduction method according to claim 13, further comprising:

a time and date of recording changing step for changing the information on the time and date of recording accompanying said predetermined one or more than one pieces of information recorded in said information recording step.

16. A recording/reproduction method according to claim 13, wherein when a piece of information not recorded on said first recording medium is supplied and it is determined in said recording capacity determining step that said first recording medium does not have a remaining recording capacity sufficient for recording said information to be recorded, the one or more than

one pieces of information stored on said recording medium with the oldest time and date of recording as detected in said oldest information detecting step are reproduced out of the recording area of said first recording medium to be used for recording said information not recorded on said first recording medium and the reproduced information is recorded on said second recording medium in said recording updating step.